

## 350 MILE ZOLA, NOVELIST AND EEFOEMER

their proper places in the lists, but others have to "be" taken in a very different order.

Before passing the series in review one may say a few words respecting the two names, Eougon and Macquart,

which, linked together, have supplied it with a general title. Some years ago those names were noticed "by" the present writer in sundry old documents relating to an abbey in Champagne, but Zola declared them to be common names in Provence. As for Macquart—long familiar to Parisians in connection with the knacker's trade — it is a suggestive circumstance that in Zola's younger days there was a bookseller at Aix, named Makaire,

whom he may well have known. Makaire, of course is merely a variant of Macaire; and it is not necessary to be familiar with the famous "Auberge des Adrets," and the wonderful impersonation of Fr<sup>^</sup>d&rict Leinaitre, to know that "Eobert Macaire" is regarded by the French as a type of braggart rascal, as cynical, as impudent as "Tartuffe" — is hypocritical and sneakish. Zola, then, in the writer's

opinion, adopted that vulgar name Macquart because it resembled Macaire, and put Eougon before it in lieu of Eobert. He pictured the Eougon-Macquarts as the Eobert-Macaires of the Second Empire, and the idea came to him, perhaps, the more readily as Napoleon III. had been repeatedly caricatured as Eobert Macaire, a

brazen knave  
repeating *alr&cad&brant* axioms amid the  
applause of his  
followers. Thus the title of the Bougon-  
Macquarts, if taken  
as synonymous with the Eobert-Macaires, will  
suffice to  
explain a good deal of Zola's series.

Let us now glance at the volumes. In "La Fortune des Eougon" (I) the author describes the origin of the Bougons